

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the Abstract is amended to be in further conformity with all requirements. Claims 1-13 are pending.

Claims 1-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Nordman (U.S. 6,061,346) and rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over Salin et al. (U.S. 6,370,390; hereafter "Salin").

Applicant traverses the rejection because Nordman fails to disclose, teach or suggest all the features of the rejected claims. For example, Nordman fails to disclose teach or suggest the claimed method and data structure, in connection with a subscriber-specific access parameter which is maintained and stored and indicates, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks, as recited in independent claims 1, 2 and 8 and their respective dependent claims. Additionally, Applicant traverses the prior art rejection based on Salin because Salin is not prior art to the present invention.

Nordman Fails to Teach or Suggest Claim Features Pertaining to "Access Parameter"

The Office Action asserted that Nordman, particularly at the passages at col. 7, lines 36-67 and col. 8, line 50 - col. 9 line 30, teaches the claimed subject matter, in particular, the maintaining of a subscriber-specific access parameter which indicates whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks and the use of that access parameter in later operations.

Preliminarily, Applicant notes that the Office Action remarks fail to explain which of Nordman's elements is considered equivalent to the claimed "access parameter." In fact, Nordman's disclosure does not refer to the term "parameter." Thus, Applicant is forced to speculate regarding the Office's interpretation of Nordman. As a result, Applicant believes that the Office has incorrectly concluded that Nordman's Wireless Host Identifier (WHI) is mean to correspond to the claimed access parameter.

However, Nordman's WHI merely indicates whether a subscriber is entitled to use an IP network via a wireless access network. Thus, the WHI fails to indicate, independent of address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network the second network or both networks, as recited in independent claim 1 and its dependent claims.

Further, independent claim 2 also recites storing, in the memory of the mobile station, a subscriber-specific access parameter indicating, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks. Although Nordman discloses storing the WHI at the HLR or at the SIM card (see col. 4 lines 45-46), the WHI only indicates the subscriber's enablement in a single network.

The Office Action further asserted that Nordman, at col. 6, lines 4-27, teaches the storage of the claimed subscriber-specific access parameter. However, that passage merely discloses nothing more than "authentication information, in a conventional manner".

The Office Action has wrongfully concluded that: (1) one of ordinary skill in the art would have reasonably concluded that any conventional authentication information disclosed by Nordman would indicate the subscriber's enablement in the access network, and (2) the WHI would indicate the subscriber's enablement in the IP network. However, even if both of those points were true, the combination of the conventional authentication information plus WHI is would not anticipate the claimed access parameter which indicates whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks. This is because, in Nordman's disclosure, the subscriber accesses the IP network via the access network. Therefore, it is impossible for any combination of Nordman's parameters to only indicate enablement of the IP network without an enablement to use the access network.

Thus, Nordman fails to disclose anything beyond a conventional authentication information, which indicates whether a subscriber is entitled to use a single network. Accordingly, Nordman fails to disclose, teach or suggest, the claimed access parameter as recited in independent claims 1, 2 and 8, which each require that the access parameter indicates whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks.

Thus, Nordman fails to disclose teach or suggest the claimed method and data structure, in connection with a subscriber-specific access parameter which is maintained and stored and indicates, independently of the address information, whether the mobile subscriber is entitled to use the first network, the second network or both networks, as recited in independent claims 1, 2 and 8 and their respective dependent claims

Salin Fails to Teach or Suggest Claim Features Pertaining to "Access Parameter"

Similarly, Salin is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) because its 102(e) date is December 1, 1998, which is later than the priority date of the present application (January 28,

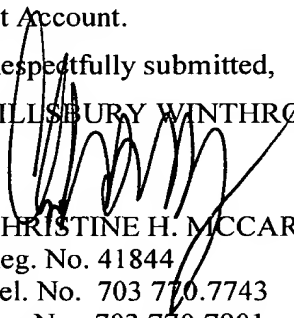
1998). Applicant will be submitting a certified English language translation of the priority application shortly.

The rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should there be any questions or concerns regarding this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Please charge any fees associated with the submission of this paper to Deposit Account Number 033975. The Commissioner for Patents is also authorized to credit any over payments to the above-referenced Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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